

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Advisory Action mailed on April 23, 2004 in which the Examiner maintained the rejection of claims 25, 26, 30, and 45 and allowed claims 27-29, 31, 36-38, and 41. With this Amendment, claims 25, 26, 30, 32-35, 40, and 42-46 are cancelled without prejudice. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendment.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 27-29, 31, 36-38, and 41 are allowed but that the rejection of claims 25, 26, 30, and 45 is maintained. Applicants have canceled claims 25, 26, 30, and 45 without prejudice to obtain timely issuance of a patent containing claims reciting subject matter that the Examiner has indicated is allowable. Applicants wish to make it unmistakably clear that Applicants do not agree to or acquiesce in the rejection of claims 25, 26, 30, and 45 and/or agree with the Examiner's view of the scope and content of U.S. Patent No. 5,882,071. However, rather than prolonging the present prosecution, Applicants intend to file a continuation application directed to the non-allowed subject matter.

Claims 27-29, 31, 36-38, and 41 are pending in the present application. Applicants have cancelled previously withdrawn claims 32-35, 40, 42-44, and 46 without prejudice. Applicants have not amended claims 27-29, 31, 36-38, and 41 and believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of




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papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R.  
§1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 5/17/04

By 

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